

# What's Up



# DOWNTOWN



# Quarterly

**A quarterly publication featuring local Downtown Alliances, Main Street Programs and other Downtown Organizations within our communities**

**Special Advertising Supplement to the Kennebec Journal and Morning Sentinel | Wednesday, June 27, 2018**

# Music hits the road on Main Streets this summer

BY ANNE G. BALL, PROGRAM DIRECTOR  
Maine Development Foundation  
Special to Downtown Quarterly

When the warm weather comes to Maine so does the opportunity for eating outside and listening to music outside. There is no better way to take in the sites and the people than sitting outside for a concert in the heart of one of Maine's downtowns.

On Saturday nights, beginning June 22, head to Gardiner's Waterfront Park on the banks of the Kennebec River at 6:30 p.m. for Johnson Hall's Summer Concert Series through September.

On Saturday June 28, a Folk and Gospel Sing Along is happening from 4 to 7 p.m. in Gardiner Commons Park. Bring a chair, Frisbee and blanket. Check out the Bowdoin International Music Festival, an annual event with more than 175 performances, many of



A program of the MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

them held at Bowdoin College, a short walk to downtown. [www.bowdoinfestival.org](http://www.bowdoinfestival.org).

There is always music in Bath. They have a full summer concert series from June-September that includes: Summer Saturdays at 6 p.m. on the dock at Waterfront Park, and Tuesdays and Fridays at the Gazebo in City Park at 7 p.m. [FMI www.visitbath.com](http://FMI.visitbath.com)

So tap your feet and sing along in Maine downtowns this summer.



# Welcome to Downtown Gardiner

## Don't miss the fun in downtown Gardiner

Evenings in Gardiner are alive this summer! Johnson Hall's Free Waterfront Concert Series, featuring live bands on a Waterfront Stage, kicks off on June 22 and continues every Friday through the end of August.

Visitors and locals from Kennebec County and beyond wrap up their week by flooding the waterfront with chairs and blankets. Picnics are laid out with convenient options purchased from downtown restaurants — or pack your own!

Two Gramps Brewing's popular Tuesday Trivia Night continues weekly at 7 p.m. Enjoy time with friends while testing your knowledge of each week's theme — no cell phone cheating! Joe creates outstanding burgers with locally-sourced beef and buns baked in Whitefield by B+T Baked Goods. Pair it with a delicious brew cultivated in micro-batches, creating a constant rotation of unique flavors and styles — the perfect reward for getting through the beginning of the work week. Two Gramps is also your Red Sox Nation hub to watch the game with other diehard fans.

Thursdays evenings begin with the weekly Classic Car Cruise-In at Waterfront Park from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Enjoy a riverside stroll to view the classic cars at this family and leashed-pet friendly event. Grab a bite at the local food vendor, close your eyes, and experience the days of yesteryear.

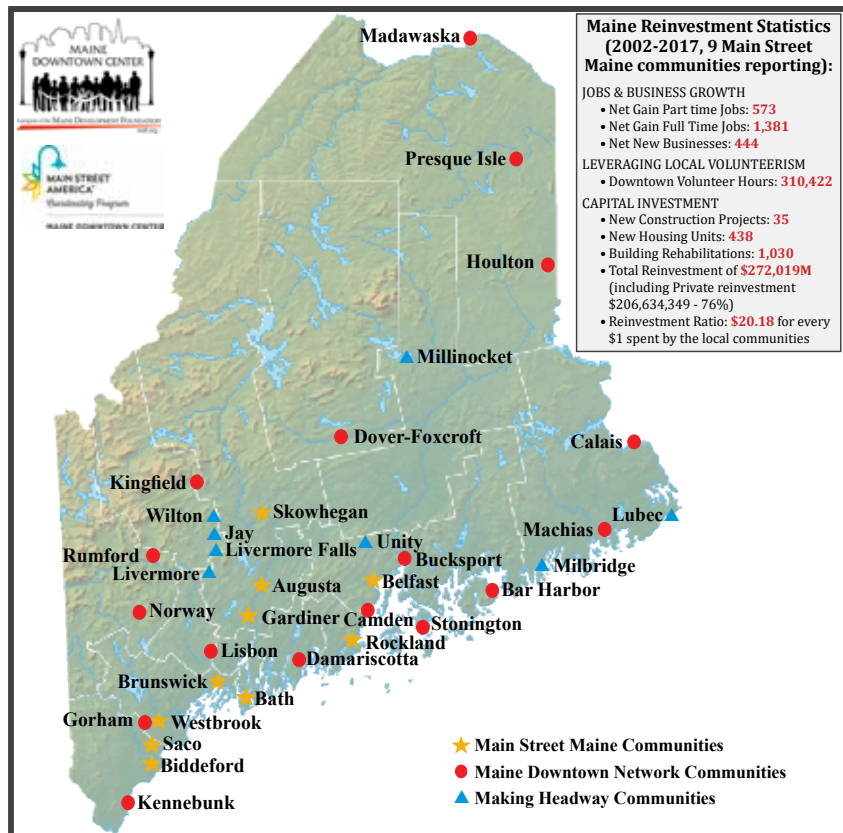
Free movies! In July, walk from the classic cars on the waterfront to Johnson Hall, where you can enjoy a FREE movie on the big screen. Gardiner Main Street is partnering with Johnson Hall and downtown businesses to bring Thursday night movies to the big screen at Johnson Hall. Johnson Hall will sell concessions to offer a full-service movie experience. To prepare for the release of "Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again," the sing-along version of 2008's "Mamma Mia!" will show at 7 p.m. July 12. Make a night of it with a local dinner before and drinks after to celebrate a decade of ABBA movie magic!

Gardiner Artwalk takes place in August and December and features unique works of art ranging from paintings, drawings, fine art prints and photography to textiles, sculpture, jewelry and ceramics.

First launched in 2005 by Artdogs studios and a handful of other area artists, the mission of ArtWalk Gardiner is to increase community awareness and appreciation of the visual arts, to encourage interaction with local artists and the public, and to nurture a supportive network that also enhances the local economy. Experience Gardiner through the imaginative lens of local artists and artisans. For questions, email [artwalkgardiner@gmail.com](mailto:artwalkgardiner@gmail.com).

The popular Classic Car Cruise-In happens weekly on Thursday evenings 5-7 p.m. at the Waterfront Park. Check out the cool collection of rare cars without heated seats, cd players, and automatic windows. Talk with owners as they show with pride a Ford Mustang or Thunderbird.

The next several months are fun-filled with several fantastic ongoing and one-time events along with all of the other "regular" happenings in Gardiner, including beer tastings at the Craft Beer Cellar, art shows at the Monkitee Art Gallery, Trivia Tuesdays at Two Gramps Brewing, shows and performances at historic Johnson Hall, Open Mic Jam Night at Niche, Inc., the monthly Facetime Social Event on the first Wednesdays and more! Stay up-to-date on events, including community happenings and vendor applications by visiting [gardinermainstreet.org/](http://gardinermainstreet.org/) to sign up for the newsletter. Check out the Calendar of Events at [gardinermainstreet.org/welcome-to-gardiner-maine/calendar-of-events/](http://gardinermainstreet.org/welcome-to-gardiner-maine/calendar-of-events/). Like and follow Gardiner Main Street on Facebook. For more info regarding Gardiner events, contact Gardiner Main Street at 207-582-3100 or email [info@gardinermainstreet.org](mailto:info@gardinermainstreet.org).



The Maine Development Foundation's Downtown Center serves as the state coordinator for the National Main Street Center. We utilize the Main Street Four-Point Approach® which has earned a reputation as one of the most powerful economic development tools in the nation for vibrant, healthy downtowns.

The Center's mission is to advance preservation-based economic development in downtowns across Maine, resulting in business growth, job creation, building rehabilitation, cultural enhancement and organizational leadership. The Center and its Advisors serve as a resource for all Maine communities interested in undertaking downtown revitalization projects and developing sustainable programs. We are proud to work with 10 Main Street Maine and 17 Maine Downtown Network communities statewide.

**The Maine Downtown Center Oversees and Manages the:**

- Main Street Maine program – locally staffed programs in 10 Maine communities
- Maine Downtown Network – for communities exploring downtown revitalization options
- Green Downtowns, Healthy Maine Streets, Grants to Green Maine
- Making Headway in Your Community collaboration with GrowSmart Maine
- Annual Conference and Downtown Institute trainings

Anne Ball, Program Director Maine Downtown Center, [aball@mdf.org](mailto:aball@mdf.org), 207.512.4906, [mdf.org](http://mdf.org)

Photo: Steve MacPhee, NJSP, Flickr



## Welcome to Downtown Augusta

# Upcoming concerts benefit The Colonial Theater renovations

**T**wo outdoor concerts are coming to the Downtown Augusta Riverfront, behind Cushnoc Brewing, to benefit the Colonial Theater capital campaign. These concerts are sponsored by Kennebec Savings Bank and Cushnoc Brewing.

### THE MALLETT BROTHERS BAND

with opening act Bandwich

Gates: 6:30 p.m. / Music: 7 p.m.

General Admission: \$20 Online / \$25 Day of Show

\*Online sales end at 5 p.m. on July 4. Tickets will be available at the door unless a "Sold Out" announcement is made.

### ABOUT THE BAND

The Mallett Brothers Band's busy tour schedule over the past seven years has helped them to build a dedicated fanbase across the U.S. and beyond while still calling the state of Maine their home. With a style that can range from alt-country to Americana, country, jam and roots rock, theirs is a musical melting pot that's influenced equally by



the singer/songwriter tradition as by harder rock, classic country and psychedelic sounds. Texas Hill Country Explore Magazine calls them "New England's wildly eclectic crew of genre rebels." Bill Copeland Music News says "Combining their authentic roots rock sound with a reflective lyrical style that perceives stories on the level of epic myth, it's like William Faulkner has been resurrected with an electric guitar in hand.."

### THE DUSTBOWL REVIVAL

Gates: 6:30 p.m. / Music: 7 p.m.

General Admission: \$20 Online / \$25 Day of Show

\*Online sales end at 5 p.m. on July 4. Tickets will be available at the door unless a "Sold Out" announcement is made.

### ABOUT THE BAND

Dustbowl Revival is an Americana Soul band with eight full-time members who mash the sounds of New Orleans funk, bluegrass, soul, pre-war blues, and roots music, into a genre-hopping, time-bending dance party that coaxes new fire out of familiar coal. Dustbowl is touring behind their self-titled, fourth studio album which spent three weeks on Billboard charts, Hit No. 1 on Amazon Americana-Alt-Country, No. 2 on Amazon Folk, and spent 16 weeks on the Americana radio chart peaking in the Top 20.

More AUGUSTA, **PAGE 4**



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## Augusta

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

### Ticketing Questions

All tickets are purchased through eventbrite.

If you have any questions regarding your online ticket purchase, you can contact eventbrite.

### Please, Do Not

- Do not bring alcohol or paraphalia of any kind into the show (this includes vaping).
- Do not bring in backpacks or duffel bags
- Do not bring weapons or firearms.

\*City of Augusta law enforcement will be on-site and bags may be searched\*

### FAQs

**Are there ID or minimum age requirements to enter the event?**

All ages, family friendly event. Children under 10 years old are free. Beer garden is 21+

**What can I bring into the event?**

Lawn chairs are permitted if you wish to have a place to sit. There is no lawn/green space.

**What are my parking options for the event?**

Street parking and municipal lots are suggested. Please view the City of Augusta's website to locate all public lots.

**What's the refund policy?**

All sales are final and therefore no refunds can be given. If the show is unable to go on due to severe weather all tickets will be honored for a later date/time.



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# Waterville lays out a summer full of food, film, music and parties

BY NATHAN TOWNE,  
Marketing Manager  
Waterville Creates

Special to Downtown Quarterly

Summer. Oh that word! It conjures visions of strawberry picking, ice-cream socials and running through sprinklers on the lawn! While it seems that the kids were in school a little longer this spring, downtown Waterville has been preparing for its eventual release by planning plenty of family-friendly fun for all ages through the course of the summer.

With summer comes fresh vegetables in Maine, but we all don't have a green thumb, nor do we have the space to grow such wonders. That's why we're incredibly fortunate to have the downtown Waterville Farmers Market on Common Street every Thursday afternoon from 2 to 6 p.m. through November.

In addition to welcoming some new vendors to the Farmers Market in 2018, they've launched a new partnership with Healthy Northern Kennebec and the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation to offer a free Maine Snap-Ed "Kids Club" at the Farmers Market between July 5 and Aug. 23.

The Kids Club will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. for children ages 5-13. Participating children can taste fresh and local food, learn about gardening, enjoy spending time outside at the market and participate in family friendly activities at the Farmers Market.

Also scheduled in conjunction with the downtown Waterville Farmers Market is Common Street Arts' free Art in the Park activity series. Held weekly on Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. outside Common Street Arts in Castonguay Square, each Art in the Park event will feature a different family-friendly art activity for all ages—such as vegetable print making, clay play, bubble art and more! For a complete schedule of Art in the Park events, visit [www.WatervilleCreates.org](http://www.WatervilleCreates.org)

### CONCERTS

Waterville Rocks! – everyone's favorite free outdoor summer concert series— is coming back to downtown Waterville's Castonguay Square for a third year in a row! This summer, four free concerts will be held on Friday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. ,July 6, July 27, Aug.17 and Sept. 28. To keep concert goers in fine spirits at this popular community event, this year's Waterville Rocks! concert series will again feature a 21+ Beer Garden

More WATERVILLE, PAGE 5

# Waterville CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

that opens at 5:30 p.m., hosted by The Proper Pig. However, new to Waterville Rocks! this year will be the addition of food trucks—each concert will feature a different food truck for concert goers to experience. With the new free WIFI downtown, we imagine plenty of Food Truck Food Selfies will be shared at Waterville Rocks! this year.

The following acts will be featured at Waterville Rocks! this summer:

- July 6: Rustic Overtones with Adam Ezra Group
- July 27: Girls, Guns, and Glory with JT Lockwood Band
- Aug.17: Enter the Haggis with Muddy Ruckus
- Sept. 28: Ripe with Kenya Hall

For more information about Waterville Rocks! visit the Waterville Rocks! Facebook Page at [www.Facebook.com/WatervilleRocks](http://www.Facebook.com/WatervilleRocks).

## BLOCK PARTY

What's summer without a good neighborhood block party? Waterville's version of a summer block party is PechaKucha Night Waterville—a PechaKucha Night Waterville is a creative networking event centered on storytelling, bringing together roughly 300 community members for an evening of sharing personal passions.

PechaKucha Night Waterville Volume 28 will be held at the Waterville Opera House on Thursday, July 12 in conjunction with the Maine International Film Festival. Featuring eight original presentations from community members in the greater Waterville area, this is always a very special and well-attended event. Free to all members of the public, the reception for PechaKucha Volume 28 will begin at 6:20 p.m., with presentations starting in the Waterville Opera House promptly at 7:20 p.m. as tradition dictates!

## FILM FESTIVAL

Summer in Waterville also means it's time for another exciting Maine International Film Festival (MIFF), scheduled from Friday, July 13th through Sunday, July 22 this summer.

Over the course of 10 exciting days, MIFF audiences have the unique opportunity to connect with directors, producers, writers, actors and musicians who travel to Waterville from across the globe. This year, the Festival will showcase 100 premier releases of American independent and international cinema, classic revivals, inspiring performances, exhibitions and community workshops in the heart of Waterville, Maine. Festival Passes and the full schedule of MIFF films and special events are available on the new MIFF website at [www.MIFF.org](http://www.MIFF.org).

## RIVERWALK

Another exciting happening in downtown Waterville that's not necessarily an event is the building of the City's RiverWalk at Head of Falls — offering a beautiful stroller-friendly walk and children's play area along our iconic Kennebec River shoreline.

The RiverWalk is expected to be completed in September 2018 and features a community gazebo, two scenic viewing platforms, a 150-seat amphitheater, an interactive water and logging-industry-themed children's play area, informational kiosks and art illustrations and newly-expanded paved public parking. There also will be plenty of delightful lunch spots in the form of benches and picnic tables donated by organizations and members of the greater Waterville community. It is not too late to make a donation to this incredible community-driven public space. To learn more visit [www.RiverwalkatHOF.com](http://www.RiverwalkatHOF.com).

## WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE

What goes great with walking? How about some rocking tunes? While the Waterville Opera House does not host community musical productions during the summer months, it does offer three children's theatre performances featuring

the talented children enrolled in its Missoula Children's Theatre camp in July and August.

For adult-focused entertainment, the Waterville Opera House becomes THE destination for live music in Waterville and features some incredible musical acts this summer, including Carbon Leaf on July 25, The Weight Band on Aug. 10 and the Taj Mahal Trio on Sept. 1. For a full schedule of events at the Waterville Opera House, visit [www.OperaHouse.org](http://www.OperaHouse.org).



## TASTE OF WATERVILLE

One simply cannot write an article about summer in downtown Waterville without mentioning the Taste of Waterville, scheduled on Wednesday, Aug. 8 in downtown Waterville.

Bringing back more food vendors than ever before, this year's Taste of Waterville will include amazing free entertainment in the form of music and dancing, free children's activities such as face painting and art activities, food trucks, the ever-popular meatball-eating contest and much, much more! For a list of participating vendors and a schedule of events visit [www.TasteofWaterville.com](http://www.TasteofWaterville.com).

Get out there and enjoy the summer Waterville— what are you waiting for? Learn more about all these events and more at [www.WatervilleCreates.org](http://www.WatervilleCreates.org)



## Welcome to Downtown Skowhegan



### Local grains are at heart of Kneading Conference and Bread Fair

The Skowhegan-based Maine Grain Alliance (MGA) will celebrate bread and everything related to it with the annual Kneading Conference and Artisan Bread Fair July 26-28. The bread fair is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 28, at the historic Skowhegan Fairgrounds. With more than 60 vendors, the fair will offer an array of Maine-made breads and pastries, wood-fired pizza, halvah, honey, butter, oil and vinegar, pottery, wooden utensils, kitchen linens, and more.

Demonstrations will range from bread baking using sourdough—with starters to take home—to tortilla making. The children's area will expand this year, and they will be able to prepare, cook and eat their own pizza.

Slated for July 26-27, the Kneading Conference is an annual gathering of bakers, farmers, millers, scientists, food writers, entrepreneurs and anyone interested in craft breads and local food networks.

This year, the conference will be held at Kennebec Valley Community College's Alford Campus in Hinckley. Just 15 miles south of Skowhegan on U.S. Route 201, the campus includes teaching kitchens, a food science lab, lecture halls, an outdoor wood-fired oven and a 120-acre working farm. MGA is already growing a number of rare and heritage grains on the farm that will be incorporated into conference workshops.

The 2018 keynote speaker will be Sarah Owens, a New York City-based cookbook author, baker, professional horticulturist and instructor. She received a James Beard Award for her first book, "Sourdough," and released her second book, "Toast & Jam," in 2017.

Preregistration is required for the conference. To register, or for more information on both the conference and bread fair, visit [KneadingConference.com](http://KneadingConference.com).



### #ShopSkowhegan program encourages shoppers to buy local

Main Street Skowhegan recently drew its first winner in the #ShopSkowhegan program the organization implemented in May. Jill Low, who made a purchase at River Roads Artisans Gallery at 75 Water St. in May, was the winner. She received a \$25 River Roads gift card. The #ShopSkowhegan program is designed to encourage people to shop locally. Whenever a customer makes a purchase at a participating Skowhegan business, he or she can fill out a tear-away sheet and drop it into a container on the checkout counter.


Each month, a person from Main Street Skowhegan draws one business from the list of participating merchants—for May, it was River Roads. The business owner is then asked to draw a winner from among the tear-away sheets that have been collected throughout the month. The winning shopper receives a \$25 gift card from the local business that drew his or her name.


Participating businesses currently include the Bankery, Boynton's Greenhouse, the Children's Cottage, Computer Improvements, Country Crow Primitives, Griffin's, Happyknits, Hight Chevrolet, Hight Dodge, Hight Ford, Lynette's, Maine Grains, Maja's, Northern Mattress, Red Roof Relics, River Roads Artisans Gallery, Russakoff Jewelers, Skills Thrift Store, Skowhegan Fleuriste & Formalwear and Snack Shack.

Any Skowhegan business can join the program at any time by contacting Main Street at 612-2571 or [mary@mainstreetskowhegan.org](mailto:mary@mainstreetskowhegan.org).

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## River Fest celebrates recreation and life on the Kennebec

The Kennebec River has always been Skowhegan's lifeblood, and for five days in August the town will celebrate recreation and life on the river with its annual River Fest event. From Aug. 1 to 5, Skowhegan's historic downtown will be brimming with festivities, food and fireworks. Activities will include raft rides, a glow-stick river run, a craft fair, children's activities, the annual Rotary Club lobster bake and Lions Club chicken barbecue, and the iconic bed races when teams race beds on wheels down Water Street.

New this year will be Dinner in the Park, a farm-to-table meal under the stars at Skowhegan's beloved Coburn Park. The dinner will take place from 5 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4. Tickets are \$45 per person, \$80 per couple, or \$300 per table of eight; they will be available starting July 2 at [MainStreetSkowhegan.org](http://MainStreetSkowhegan.org) and at the Skowhegan Fleuriste, 93 Water St.

River Fest showcases the downtown Kennebec River Gorge as the future home of the Run of River Whitewater Recreation Area. Run of River will include a whitewater park with terraced seating; an expanded four-season trail system on 300 acres in the heart of town; a riverfront promenade and pristine fishing waters with improved fish habitat.

The Park will serve as a venue for river festivals and events, attracting significant regional and national whitewater paddling competitions and drawing recreation aficionados, spectators, sightseers and adventure travelers. Fundraising is currently underway for the first phase of the recreation area. For more information, see [RunofRiver.org](http://RunofRiver.org).

Sponsored by Skowhegan Savings Bank, River Fest is organized by the Run of River Committee, the Skowhegan Area Chamber of Commerce, Skowhegan Parks & Recreation, and Main Street Skowhegan.

For a full schedule or for information on becoming a sponsor or vendor, visit [SkowheganRiverFest.com](http://SkowheganRiverFest.com) or contact Main Street Skowhegan at 612-2571 or [info@mainstreetskowhegan.org](mailto:info@mainstreetskowhegan.org).

## Third annual Skowhegan brew fest features 30 Maine brewers, free food samples

On Saturday, Sept. 1, a block in the heart of downtown Skowhegan will close to vehicular traffic as an anticipated 30 purveyors of Maine craft beer, wine, cider and spirits take to the streets at the third annual Skowhegan Craft Brew Festival.

Last year the festival drew nearly 1,100 attendees—up from 800 in 2016—from across the country and Canada.

The event will kick off with a VIP hour featuring specialty brews not available during the general session. Doors will open for VIP hour at 1:30 p.m., with VIP food options served from 1:30 to 3 and brews poured from 2 to 3 p.m. VIP tickets are limited and have sold out for the past two years.

From 3 to 7 p.m. an array of Maine-crafted libations will be on tap for attendees to sample, while local merchants will sell fare ranging from poutine to organic tacos. Free local food samples will be available to all attendees.

The Nikki Hunt Band will perform throughout the festival. A pop/rock group based in central Maine, Nikki Hunt covers artists including Sheryl Crow, Joan Jett, Bruce Springsteen, Sublime, No Doubt, The Doors and U2.

Guided tours of Maine Grains at the Somerset Grist Mill will round out this Labor Day weekend event—one of the only festivals in the state featuring all Maine producers of beer, wine, cider and spirits—making for an unforgettable close to summer.

Leading sponsors include Skowhegan Savings Bank, Kennebec Valley Tourism Council, Maine Grains, Bigelow Brewing Co., Butler's Car Wash, Damon's, DuBois Construction, Franklin Printing, Franklin Savings Bank, Hight Family of Dealerships and Short Circuit Electric.

Tickets are on sale now at [SkowheganCraftBrewFest.com](http://SkowheganCraftBrewFest.com) at a discounted rate from at-the-door prices.

To learn about sponsoring, vending or volunteering, see the website or contact Main Street Skowhegan at 207-612-2571 or [info@mainstreetskowhegan.org](mailto:info@mainstreetskowhegan.org).





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


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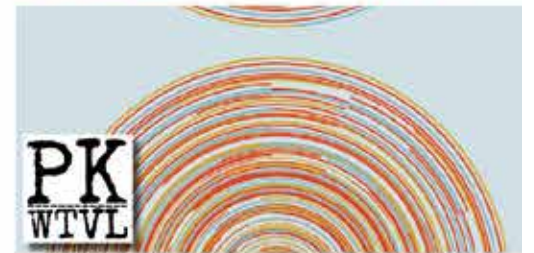
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# Experience the Arts in Waterville

## June 30–September 28

Date	Event	Location
June 30	R.B. Hall Day	Waterville Opera House
June 30	Nature Gelatin Prints	Common Street Arts
July 1	Snow Pond Symphony	Snow Pond
July 1	The Bolshoi Ballet: Coppelia	Waterville Opera House
July 2 & 3	Auditions for Things My Mother Taught Me	Waterville Opera House
July 6	Waterville Rocks! Rustic Overtones & Adam Ezra Group	Waterville Opera House
July 7–26	Atlantic Music Festival	Colby College
July 12	PechaKucha Night Waterville V28	Waterville Opera House
July 13–22	Maine International Film Festival	Railroad Square/Waterville Opera House
July 14–21	MIFFONEDGEV6	Common Street Arts
July 15	Colby Museum Community Day	Colby College
July 18	Art Happy Hour (MIFF style)	Common Street Arts
July 21	39th Annual NEMC Pops Concert	Snow Pond
July 25	Carbon Leaf in Concert	Waterville Opera House
July 27	Waterville Rocks! Girls, Guns, and Glory & JT Lockwood Band	Castonguay Square
August 2	Ebb and Flow Opening Reception	Common Street Arts
August 8	Taste of Waterville	Downtown Waterville
August 9	Little Shop of Horrors	Snow Pond
August 10	The Weight Band in Concert	Waterville Opera House
August 13	Don Campbell	Snow Pond
August 17	Waterville Rocks! Enter the Haggis & Muddy Ruckus	Castonguay Square
August 28	Broadway in Maine	Snow Pond
September 1	The Taj Mahal Trio in Concert	Waterville Opera House
September 5	Fab Four—A Beatles Tribute	Snow Pond
September 7–9	Cirque du Geek	Waterville Public Library
September 14–23	Things My Mother Taught Me	Waterville Opera House
September 16	Waterville Music Boosters Color Run	Quarry Road
September 28	Super Raffle Dinner	Waterville Elks Banquet & Conference Center
September 28	Waterville Rocks! Ripe & Kenya Hall	Castonguay Square



Waterville Creates! promotes, supports and grows our community's arts and cultural assets in order to strengthen Waterville as a vibrant creative center, increase access to creative opportunities for residents and visitors, and advance community and economic development goals. Learn more about these events or list your own event at [watervillecreates.org](http://watervillecreates.org)

